

ISSUE DECREE ON ARMED VESSELS

BUILDING OF
A MERCHANT
FLEET URGED

Secretary of Navy Tells of
Great Need of an Ade-
quate Sea Force.

APPROVES OF PROGRAM

Daniels Supports Adminis-
tration in Speech Before
Business Men.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Secretary Daniels of the navy defended the administration naval increase program and advocated the immediate building up of an adequate merchant marine in a speech here today before a session of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States devoted to discussion of national preparedness.

"We can no longer live unto ourselves," said Mr. Daniels. "On our farms we grow more than the republic can consume. We must feed much of the world. We have the right also to have a large share in clothing the world and supply people in all climes whatever is manufactured in our mills and factories.

Is Pressing Problem.

"But how can we fill our larger mission? What avails teeming harvests and large production in factories without adequate and reasonable water transportation? The securing of an adequate merchant marine is a pressing problem and it is tied up with the enlarging and strengthening of our navy that the two cannot be widely separated.

The naval program offered by the administration is a constructive, progressive one, and if built according to the continuous five-year program—the first continuing program ever proposed by an administration—it will give us by the year 1921, 33 capital ships at the first line and 25 battleships of the second line, with 10 armored cruisers, 168 destroyers, 175 submarines and smaller craft in proportion."

Follower of Franklin.

Mr. Daniels declared himself to be a disciple of Benjamin Franklin on the question of preparedness. "This philosopher and statesman declared that there never was a good war nor a bad peace," but he did more to prepare for the impending revolution than any other man," he said.

"No man in the revolutionary period could be preferred before him in preparedness for defense. His achievements for preparedness may well be studied by the people of this generation."

TAKES UP DUTIES
AS ARCHBISHOP

Chicago, Feb. 10.—Archbishop George W. Mundelein today took up actively his duties as archbishop of the Chicago diocese.

The appointment of Monsignor M. J. Fitzsimmons as vicar general of the Chicago diocese was the first official act of the new archbishop. Monsignor Fitzsimmons was acting head of the diocese since the death of Archbishop Quigley.

OLD LOVERS LIVE
AND END WARFARE

Pindley, Ohio, Feb. 10.—Just before Miss Ada Warner, 41 years, was to have been placed on trial today on a charge of shooting Norris H. Powell, last November, it was announced that the charge had been dropped by Powell on condition that Miss Warner drop her breach of promise action against him for \$10,000.

Miss Warner was charged with having donned men's clothes and entered Powell's home, where he lived alone, demanding that he marry her. When he refused she is said to have shot him.

Miss Warner was found an hour later at her own home a mile away with a knife wound in her throat, having evidently attempted suicide. Both were near death for weeks.

Miss Warner in her suit against Powell charged that she promised to marry her 22 years ago, that she waited 20 years for him until his mother died and then discovered he had decided not to wed her. Powell is 43 years old.



SPEAKING OF "A TAX"

RUSSIAN SLAYER
OF TWO ISSPARED
ELECTRIC CHAIR

Columbus, O., Feb. 10.—Governor Willis today commuted to life imprisonment the sentence of Peter Skribner, who was to have been electrocuted tomorrow morning, for shooting a woman in Toledo and then killing a policeman who attempted to arrest him.

Opponents of capital punishment became active in behalf of the prisoner and the Russian consul at Pittsburgh visited Governor Willis and made a plea for a commutation of Skribner's sentence, the latter being a Russian by birth.

Skribner, who cannot speak English, has maintained a stoic air that caused him to be known as "the silent man." Evidence was presented to show that Skribner is mentally unbalanced.

FORSAKES IDEA OF
A SOUTHERN TOUR

Washington, Feb. 10.—President Wilson has given up the idea of making an extended southern trip to speak for preparedness. He told senators and representatives today that he might later make a few speeches but at present would not make another trip.

The president has concluded that he is needed in Washington to keep in touch with the army and navy bills and other legislation.

Latest Bulletins

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 10.—Official reports from western Chihuahua today stated that General Francisco Villa is west of the Santa Clara ranch traveling between Santa Ana and Las Cruces. It was stated that a band of his men attacked and burned ranch houses yesterday at San Juan, near the Hearst property at Brobicoira.

Berlin, Feb. 10. (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The Cologne Gazette publishes a report that on the occasion of the last Zeppelin raid over England, the cruiser Caroline and the destroyers Eden and Nih were sunk.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Alexander T. Vogelsang of San Francisco was nominated by President Wilson today as solicitor of the department of the interior, succeeding Preston C. West of Oklahoma.

London, Feb. 10. (11:45 a. m.)—The Swedish steamship Texas, New Orleans for Gothenburg, which on Tuesday reported that her cargo of cotton was on fire, arrived at Queenstown today.

Shanghai, Feb. 10.—Luchow in the southern part of Sze-Chuen province has been captured by the Yunnan revolutionists according to word received here today.

Lone Bandit
Robs Thirty
and Escapes

Rock Springs, Wyo., Feb. 10.—Approximately \$100 in money was taken from 30 passengers by a bandit who last night held up a Union Pacific train near here.

A purse containing \$70 was returned to a woman passenger, the bandit remarking that he did not want to rob women. A posse headed by Sheriff McCourt and Union Pacific agents today is searching for trace of the robber.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Feb. 10.—A bandit held up and robbed 30 passengers in a Pullman on an eastbound Union Pacific train last night between Green River and Rock Springs, Wyo., according to reports to railroad headquarters here today. The robber leaped from the train when the alarm spread, to other cars. A posse has left Green River in pursuit.

The robber first appeared in the observation car, intimidated a woman passenger and forced brakeman Taylor to precede him into the buffet compartment. Several men were ordered to throw up their hands, and when one was slow about complying, the bandit fired two shots. Money and valuables were collected quickly and the bandit, following Taylor, proceeded into the sleeping car ahead, where passengers in their berths were robbed.

James Fitzgerald, conductor, was covered by the bandit and robbed but ran from the car as the latter glanced into a berth. The robber fired as Fitzgerald ran, but without effect. As the train slowed down the bandit took alarm and escaped.

BRANDEIS UPHELD
BY CALIFORNIAN

Washington, Feb. 10.—The senate judiciary sub-committee continued today its inquiry into the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis of Boston to the supreme court bench. Representatives of the United Shoe Machinery company, with which Mr. Brandeis was once associated as counsel, were heard.

Mr. Brandeis' attitude as counsel for the interstate commerce commission in the 5 per cent rate case was vigorously attacked by Clifford Thorne, chairman of the Iowa railroad commission, and was defended with equal vigor by Lieutenant Governor John M. Eshelman of California, president of the California railroad commission at the time the case was pending, at last night's hearing before the sub-committee.

Concluding his testimony, Mr. Thorne, who was associate counsel in the rate case, appealed to the committee not to confirm Mr. Brandeis, charging that he conceded the cause of the railroads, to the fatal injury of the public interest.

Mr. Eshelman, in defending Mr. Brandeis, expressed the belief that the latter's action in the rate case was entirely justified.

LAWYERS PULLING
NET ABOUT WOMAN
IN MURDER TRIAL

Winterset, Ia., Feb. 10.—Mrs. Ethel Meyer's left hand bore a powder mark and fresh bruises were on her left wrist, according to testimony given today at the trial of Mrs. Ida Meyer, aged 60, charged with complicity in the murder of her daughter-in-law.

The testimony was offered for the state by John Frankleberger, a member of the coroner's jury which examined the slain girl bride's body after the shooting at the Meyer home near here July 25 last.

Frankleberger testified that Ethel Meyer was left handed and the revolver with which Mrs. Ida Meyer and her son, Fred, insisted the girl committed suicide, lay beside her right hand when the body was found.

He also said that he examined the revolver and found it rusty. He insisted it had not been used for some time.

Although a powerfully built man, Frankleberger testified he found it a difficult task to pull the trigger. Two women, he said, tried to pull the trigger but could not. Then, he said, the weapon had been handed to Mrs. Ida Meyer, but she also failed. John Summerville of Winterset, also a member of the coroner's jury, largely corroborated Frankleberger's testimony.

Frankleberger testified that the defendant when before the coroner's jury had explained bloodstains on her clothing by stating that she had dressed the dying girl's wounds.

It was the prevailing belief today that neither Mrs. Ida Meyer, nor her son Fred, sentenced to 15 years on the same charge, will be put on the stand. A photographer who attempted to get Mrs. Meyer's picture was forced out of her hotel here today. The aged defendant has successfully prevented the taking of her picture thus far and is said to have destroyed all existing photographs.

BANK ROBBERS'
TRIAL IS OPENED

Chicago, Feb. 10.—Trial of the four who were indicted on charges of having robbed the Washington Park National bank of \$15,000 Jan. 27, was begun today.

The principal witness against the four, Alex Brodie, Charles and Harry Kramer and Harry Fein, is Eddie Mack, who confessed that he was one of the men who robbed the bank.

DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.

Met in executive session to consider Nicaraguan treaty.

Sub-committee continued hearing in nomination of Louis D. Brandeis for supreme court.

HOUSE.

Naval and military committees heard witnesses on national defense.

Hearings on the administration shipping bill were begun.

DENY DEMAND
MADE IN NEW
AUSTRO CASE

Reports of Statements Sent
Vienna Contradicted by
Officials.

ONLY ASK INFORMATION

Note Sent Penfield Seeking
Austrian Investigation
of Affair.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Secretary Lansing announced today that he had sent to the Austro-Hungarian government through Ambassador Penfield a dispatch asking for investigation and an explanation of the attack by an Austrian submarine on the American tank steamer Petrolite.

The secretary said published statements that demands had been made on the Vienna government were "not true," but that it was within the range of possibility that demands of some sort might be made in the future should the investigation and explanation asked warrant them.

Mentions Affidavits of Crew.

The secretary's dispatch called attention to affidavits from members of the crew of the Petrolite and to information from other sources to the effect that the ship was stopped in the Mediterranean near Alexandria by an Austrian submarine which fired on her and wounded one man.

The submarine commander asked for food which Captain Thompson of the Petrolite refused. He then sent a boarding party on the American ship and removed one American member of her crew who was held as a hostage while the Austrians took the food they required from the Petrolite's stores.

Novel questions are involved in the case. Warships under certain stress may take food from merchantmen if they give proper receipts or payment but it is realized that if submarines are to be permitted to do so every neutral ship might be made a base for their operations.

HUNDREDS ATTEND
HEPBURN FUNERAL

Clarinda, Iowa, Feb. 10.—Hundreds of Iowans today paid their last respects to Colonel William P. Hephburn, former congressman, who died at his home here Monday.

The body laid in state in the First Methodist church from 10 o'clock this morning until 3 o'clock, the time set for the funeral services. The funeral services were to be under the auspices of the local G. A. R. post while the services at the cemetery were to be conducted by the Masonic order.

Business in Clarinda was practically suspended all day. Many people were here from over the state.

WINS \$17,000 SUIT
AGAINST RAILROAD

Decatur, Ill., Feb. 10.—In a verdict returned today the jury in the case of Mrs. Ada B. Walton vs. the Wabash railroad, a suit for damages for death of her husband, awarded \$17,000 to the widow. Walton, who was a Wabash flagman, was killed in the yards at St. Louis recently. The verdict was the heaviest ever returned against a railroad in a similar case in this part of the case.

Wife of U. S. Official Dead.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Mrs. Joseph E. Kuhn, wife of Colonel Kuhn, American military attaché at Berlin, died last night at the home of Secretary Garrison after a stroke of apoplexy. Mrs. Kuhn had been in the receiving line at a reception with Mrs. Garrison. She was suddenly taken ill and died.

THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and vicinity.

Mostly cloudy and probably unsettled tonight and Friday; not much change in temperature, with the lowest tonight about 10 to 15 degrees above zero.

Temperature at 7 a. m., 15. Highest yesterday, 24. Lowest last night, 10. Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 3 miles per hour.

Precipitation, none. Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 74; at 7 a. m., 79; at 1 p. m. today, 72. Stage of water, 11.3; a fall of .11 in last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

Lusitania is
Chased Down
to a Reporter

New York, Feb. 10.—On Feb. 7 Secretary of State Lansing made the following statement in connection with the Lusitania case:

"All I wish to say is that this government has not increased its demands in the Lusitania case, as set forth in the notes of May 13, June 9 and July 21. I doubt very much if Dr. Zimmermann ever made such a statement, because he must know it is utterly false."

This was in reference to a statement attributed to Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, under-secretary for foreign affairs, in an interview with the Associated Press published on Feb. 4, in which he said:

"I do not understand America's course. We had thought the submarine issue settled and the Lusitania question on the way to an arrangement—had agreed to pay indemnity and all that—when the United States suddenly made its new demands, which it is impossible for us to accept."

When Secretary Lansing's statement was issued, the Associated Press cabled its correspondent in Berlin for confirmation of the phrase attributed to Dr. Zimmermann. Today that correspondent has cabled the following statement:

"Berlin, Feb. 9.—The text of the interview with Under-Secretary Zimmermann was submitted to him and approved by him before it was cabled. Regarding the phrase 'new demands,' it is literally exact. The correspondent immediately countered with a question regarding the nature of these demands without eliciting any answer."

Unfilled Tonnage 7,922,767 Tons.
New York, Feb. 10.—The unfilled orders of the United States Steel corporation on Jan. 31 amounted to 7,922,767 tons, according to the monthly statement issued today. This is an increase of 116,547 tons over December.

THE WAR TODAY

Signs that a military operation of importance may be impending in the Balkans are furnished by the Bulgarian government organ at Sofia, which asserts the right of Bulgaria to invade Greece for an attack on the French and British there. Dispatches announcing a notable concentration of Teutonic allied troops and heavy artillery along the Greek border have been frequent.

Some movement of moment may be developing at the northern end of the Russian lines, where the artillery play is reported as heavy and continuous, particularly in the neighborhood of Dvinsk. The Russians profess confidence in the security of their line there despite the German heavy guns. In Galicia they are on the aggressive and at one point report crossing the Dniester river.

In the west the initiative at present seems with the Germans who are hammering on the French lines and making an occasional gain, notably near Neuville, not far below the Belgian border and south of the river Somme.

Total Prussian losses in the war are estimated by an Amsterdam statistician at 2,377,378.

The bombardment of Smyrna on the Asia Minor coast by a squadron of French aeroplanes is reported from Athens.

Two German seaplanes yesterday dropped bombs in Kent county, southeast England, injuring two women and a child.

On the western battle front, between Lens and Arras, the French and Germans are engaged in a severe combat. Berlin reports the capture of French positions over a length of 800 yards near the town of Vimy. Paris admits that the Germans secured a foothold in part of a French trench but says they were driven out by hand grenade attacks. Paris also claims that French batteries have badly damaged German organizations in the forest of Apremont, southeast of St. Mihiel.

Bombardments of great intensity are in progress in the district around Riga on the Russian front. German reports say a Russian infantry attack in that region was repulsed.

An official statement from Rome says that artillery actions on the whole Italian-Austro front are most intense.

No news of the Belgian front or in Asia, where the Russians and British at various points are engaged with the Turks, has come through.

The steamship Orissa, which in some quarters are believed to have been sunk or captured by a German commerce raider, has put into St. Nazaire, France, according to a London dispatch to the New York Times. The vessel struck a rock but no lives were lost, the dispatch says.

BERLIN PUTS
COUNTER FOR
STATESNOTE

Germany Gives Enemies Un-
til March 1 to Clear Sea
of Gunned Ships.

ANSWER TO FEELERS?

Lansing Letters Questioning
Belligerents Believed
Responsible.

Berlin, Feb. 10. (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The German government is about to issue a memorandum to neutral governments announcing that hereafter armed merchantmen belonging to countries at war with Germany will be considered and treated as warships.

The government contends this measure is justified by explicit instructions issued by the British admiralty to merchantmen, a copy of which is said to have been obtained by the German authorities. These instructions, it is understood here, were that the merchantmen should carry guns and attack the submarines on sight.

It is also stated these orders have a counterpart in instructions issued by the governments of other countries at war with Germany.

The German memorandum was communicated to an American newspaper correspondent by Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, under-secretary of foreign affairs. Dr. Zimmermann said he believed the memorandum was in harmony with the ideas put forth in the American government's proposals to belligerent nations in regard to the submarine warfare, which he thought were calculated to place this form of warfare on a proper basis.

Notify United States.
Washington, Feb. 10.—Germany and Austria, through their embassies here, have notified the United States of their intention to treat armed merchantmen as warships after March 1. That date was fixed to give the entente allies time to signify their intention toward the recent note of the United States proposing the disarmament of all merchantmen.

INTERURBAN CARS
TO START MARCH 19

Iowa City, Ia., Feb. 10.—First electric interurban traction service between this city and Muscatine will begin over the new Muscatine and Iowa City Interurban Railway company's tracks on March 19, according to announcement today by S. W. Merrier, vice president of the company.

The company has leased the tracks of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad company west of Muscatine and approval of the lease by the district court is the only obstacle preventing immediate service.

St. Louis Men Ask New Rates.
Washington, Feb. 10.—Arguments were heard today before the interstate commerce commission on the complaint of the Business Men's league of St. Louis that passenger and freight rates inbound and outbound between St. Louis and points in Illinois are discriminatory against that city, compared to the rates from Chicago and other points in Illinois. The Santa Fe and other roads are defendants and the commission has been asked to prescribe new rates.

Leonard Outclasses Bloom.
Boston, Feb. 10.—Benny Leonard, New York lightweight, was credited with a knockout over Phil Bloom in the eighth round of their scheduled 12-round bout Tuesday night. Although Bloom was not out when Referee Donahue stopped the fight, he was hopelessly outclassed.

TRYING TO STOP
DISEASE SPREAD

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 10.—Efforts were being made today by the state board of health to prevent a wide-spread epidemic of scarlet fever due to an outbreak of 11 cases at the western military academy at Alton, Ill. The school authorities sent the 200 students at the school to their homes after, it is said, many of them had been exposed to the disease. One of these boys, a resident of Jacksonville, became ill after reaching his home. The school roster was requested by Dr. C. St. Clair Drake, secretary of the board, and it is hoped measures can be taken which will prevent the spread of the fever.